

ABSTRACT

The present invention pertains to a method, and related tools for performing the method, of delivering a stent or other like-device to the heart to connect the left ventricle to the coronary artery to thereby supply blood directly from the ventricle to the coronary artery. The method may be used to bypass a total or partial occlusion of a coronary artery. In a preferred embodiment, the inventive method of providing direct blood flow between a heart chamber and a coronary vessel includes placing a guide device and a dilation device through an anterior wall and a posterior wall of the coronary vessel and through a heart wall between the heart chamber and the coronary vessel, the dilation device forming a passageway in the heart wall at a location defined by the guide device, and placing a stent within the passageway.

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